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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/406,721	09/28/1999	HIROSHI SATOMI	35.C13864	1890

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EXAMINER	
DASTOURI, MEHRDAD	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2623	14

DATE MAILED: 05/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/406,721	SATOMI, HIROSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mehrdad Dastouri	2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 May 2003* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on May 13, 2003 for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/406,721 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment filed April 11, 2003, has been entered and made of record.

3. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are moot in view of new grounds of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0015167) in view of Kubota (U.S. 6,041,323).

Regarding Claim 1, Watanabe et al disclose a character processing apparatus comprising:

first storage means for storing information relating to an area for displaying character data (Figure 1, ROM 22, Paragraphs 0155-0157; Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 14; Figure 15, Step 1102; Page 12, Paragraphs 0157 and 0160.

The information related to the allowable number of characters will be stored in a predetermined buffer);

second storage means for storing character data in association with the area for displaying character data (Figure 1, RAM 23, Paragraph 0086; Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Step 1105; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161);

arrangement means for arranging the character data stored in said second storage means in a display area created in accordance with the information stored in said first storage means (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028/0029; Figure 15, Steps 1104 and 1105; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161);

display means for displaying the character data which can be arranged in the display area by said arrangement means (Figure 1, Display Unit 33; Figure 5; Page 6, Paragraphs 0079-0082);

judgment means for judging whether a predetermined designation to the display area is selected by a user (Figure 8; Pages 8-9, Paragraphs 0115-0128); and

control means for carrying out control in such a way that character data which can not be displayed in the display area is displayed in a different manner when said judgment means judges that the predetermined designation is selected (Figures 5 and 15; Paragraph 0161, Lines 17-23. As depicted in Figure 15, in Step 1106, overflow characters are recognized, and in Step 1108, overflow characters (stored in display buffer) will be displayed).

Watanabe et al disclose the number of inputted characters exceeding an allowable number of characters (overflow characters), the area for displaying

characters, and the inputted characters are stored in different display buffer in the ROM 22 and RAM 23 (Paragraphs 0085, 0086, 0161 and 0167).

Watanabe et al do not explicitly disclose moving the character data that cannot be displayed to different storage means (third storage means).

Moving the character data that cannot be displayed (overflow characters) to different storage means is extremely well known in the art as disclosed by Kubota.

Kubota discloses an information search device wherein the character data that cannot be displayed is moved to different storage means (Figures 5 and 6; Column 24, Lines 30-67, Column 25, Column 26, Lines 1-30).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Watanabe et al invention according to the teachings of Kubota to move the character data that can not be displayed to third storage means from second storage means because it is a well known procedure routinely implemented in the art that will provide optimal character storage and retrieval and will increase flexibility of the data management system.

Regarding Claim 2, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when character data which cannot be displayed in the display area exists, said display means displays a mark to report that the non-displayed character data exists (Figure 5; Page 3, Paragraph 0028; Page 12, Paragraph 0161; Figure 17(b); Paragraph 00170. Overflow characters are displayed with plex.).

Regarding Claim 3, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising inserting means for inserting the

non-displayed character data which has been stored in said third storage means in another display area different from the display area which is created in accordance with the information stored in said first storage means (Figure 5; Figure 15, Step 1108; Page 12, Paragraphs 0161 and 0162).

Regarding Claim 4, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising inserting means for inserting the non-displayed character data stored in said third storage means in a position which is specified with a cursor (Page 12, Paragraph 0161, Lines 17-23. Figure 17(b); Paragraph 00170. Overflow characters are displayed with plex.) .

Regarding Claim 5, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said display means display the character data arranged in the displayed area and a frame representing the display area (Figures 5,15 and 16; Page 3, Paragraph 0028; Page 12, Paragraph 0161).

Regarding Claim 6, Watanabe et al further disclose a character processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said arrangement means arranges the character data in accordance with a format which is decided for every area (Figure 5; Page 6, Paragraphs 0079-0082).

With regards to Claims 7, 13 and 14, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 1 are applicable to Claims 7, 13 and 14.

With regards to Claims 8 and 15, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 2 are applicable to Claims 8 and 15.

With regards to Claims 9 and 16, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 3 are applicable to Claims 9 and 16.

With regards to Claims 10 and 17, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 4 are applicable to Claims 10 and 17.

With regards to Claims 11 and 18, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 5 are applicable to Claims 11 and 18.

With regards to Claims 12 and 19, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 6 are applicable to Claims 12 and 19.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mehrdad Dastouri whose telephone number is (703) 305-2438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on (703) 308-6604. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-9051 for regular communications and (703) 308-9051 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the technology Center Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Mehrdad Dastouri

Mehrdad Dastouri
Primary Examiner
Group Art Unit 2623
May 21, 2003